

CLAIMS:

1. (Previously amended) A guiding device, comprising:
 - an elongated finger-resting surface;
 - an elongated upstanding section projecting upwardly from said finger-resting surface;
 - an elongated scale-supporting section coupled to and extending along said upstanding section with said upstanding section being positioned between said scale-supporting section and said finger-resting surface, said scale-supporting section being inclined with respect to a guiding device supporting surface; and
 - an elongated first scale made of metal and having a lower surface and an upper surface, said lower surface being rigidly and unreleasably attached to said scale-supporting section and said upper surface having first indicia to indicate predetermined lengths along said first scale, and
 - said finger-resting surface permitting fingers of a user gripping said guiding device to be positioned on said finger-resting surface while being protected from an implement by said upstanding section during movement of the implement along said guiding device adjacent said first scale.
2. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said finger-resting surface is substantially flat.
3. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said finger-resting surface, said upstanding section, and said scale supporting section are integrally formed as a unitary, one-piece element.
4. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 3, wherein
said finger-resting surface, said upstanding section, and said scale supporting section are formed of plastic.

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5. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said first scale has a non-metallic coating on said upper surface.

6. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, further comprising:
a substantially flat contact surface positioned beneath said finger-resting
surface, said upstanding section, and said scale supporting section to permit smooth
application of said guiding device on the working surface.

7. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 6, wherein
said contact surface includes second indicia indicating predetermined lengths
along said contact surface.

8. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 7, wherein
said second indicia is printing on said contact surface.

9. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 6, wherein
said contact surface includes an elongated recess.

10. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said upstanding section is a wall having a first side facing said first scale and
a second side facing said finger-resting surface, with said first side being inclined
with respect to said scale-supporting section.

11. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 10, wherein
said second side includes a plurality of ribs.

12. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said guiding device has a generally T-shaped cross-section.

13. (Original) A guiding device, comprising:

an elongated, first portion having a finger-resting surface and a bottom surface opposite to said finger-resting surface;

an elongated, second portion extending along said first portion, said second portion having an upstanding section and an inclined scale-supporting section, said upstanding section projecting upwardly from said finger-resting surface and having an uppermost free end, said upstanding section being positioned between said scale-supporting section and said first portions, said first and second portions having a generally T-shaped cross-section; and

an elongated first scale having a lower surface rigidly and unreleasably attached to said scale-supporting section, an upper surface having first indicia to indicate predetermined lengths along said first scale, an innermost edge positioned closest to said free end of said upstanding section, and an outermost edge remote from said innermost edge,

said bottom surface of said first portion being configured to be placed against a substantially flat working surface, and said upper surface of said first scale being inclined with respect to the working surface such that said innermost edge of said first scale is further from the working surface than said outermost edge of said first scale, and

said finger-resting surface permitting fingers of a user gripping said guiding device to be positioned on said finger-resting surface while being protected from an implement by said upstanding section during movement of the implement along said guiding device, adjacent said first scale.

14. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein

each of said finger-resting surface and said first bottom surface of said first portion is substantially flat, and said finger-resting surface is substantially parallel to said first bottom surface.

15. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein

said first portion and said second portion are integrally formed as a unitary, one-piece element.

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16. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said first portion and said second portion are formed of plastic.

17. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said first scale is metal.

18. (Previously amended) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said bottom surface includes second indicia indicating predetermined lengths
along said bottom surface.

19. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said upstanding section is a wall having a first side facing said first scale and
a second side facing said finger-resting surface, with said first side being inclined
with respect to said scale-supporting section.

20. (Original) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said upstanding section includes means for gripping said upstanding section
by fingers of a user of said guiding device.

21. (Previously Added) A guiding device, comprising:
an elongated finger-resting surface;
an elongated upstanding section projecting upwardly from said finger-resting
surface;
an elongated scale-supporting section coupled to and extending along said
upstanding section with said upstanding section being positioned between said

scale-supporting section and said finger-resting surface, said scale-supporting section being inclined with respect to a guiding device supporting surface; and

an elongated first scale having a lower surface and an upper surface, said lower surface being rigidly and unreleasably attached to said scale-supporting section and said upper surface having first indicia to indicate predetermined lengths along said first scale, and

said finger-resting surface permitting fingers of a user gripping said guiding device to be positioned on said finger-resting surface while being protected from an implement by said upstanding section during movement of the implement along said guiding device adjacent said first scale.

22. (Previously Added) A guiding device according to claim 21, wherein
said upstanding section has a closed free end that contains no upwardly
projecting openings.

23. (Previously Added) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said upstanding section has a closed free end that contains no upwardly
projecting openings.

24. (New) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said finger-resting surface is substantially flat and is substantially parallel to a
first bottom surface positioned beneath said finger-resting surface.

25. (New) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said finger-resting surface is substantially flat.

26. (New) A guiding device according to claim 21, wherein
said finger-resting surface is substantially flat and is substantially parallel to a
first bottom surface positioned beneath said finger-resting surface.

27. (New) A guiding device according to claim 21, wherein
said finger-resting surface is substantially flat.

28. (New) A guiding device according to claim 1, wherein
said scale-supporting section has a first section end that forms a first free
edge for placement against an item to be measured, said scale-supporting section
having a second section end that extends to and is connected to said upstanding
section, said scale-supporting section has a scale-supporting surface that extends
continuously between said first section end and said second section end, and said
scale-supporting surface being inclined from said first section end to said second
section end.

29. (New) A guiding device according to claim 13, wherein
said scale-supporting section has a first section end that forms a first free
edge for placement against an item to be measured, said scale-supporting section
having a second section end that extends to and is connected to said upstanding
section, said scale-supporting section has a scale-supporting surface that extends
continuously between said first section end and said second section end, and said
scale-supporting surface being inclined from said first section end to said second
section end.

30. (New) A guiding device according to claim 21, wherein
said scale-supporting section has a first section end that forms a first free
edge for placement against an item to be measured, said scale-supporting section
having a second section end that extends to and is connected to said upstanding
section, said scale-supporting section has a scale-supporting surface that extends
continuously between said first section end and said second section end, and said
scale-supporting surface being inclined from said first section end to said second
section end.